

# Mohave County Miner.

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## Approximate Metal Production.

### Nearly 1,000,000\$ Increase in Mineral Production for Year

### Mohave Leads in Gold

### Tom Reed and Gold Road Biggest Gold Producers of Arizona.

#### Gold Road Mines Company.

A subsidiary corporation of the United States Smelting, Refining & Mining Company is the Gold Road Mines company, operating the famous Gold Road mines. This corporation has been in existence only about nine months, taking over the mines from the Gold Road Mining & Exploration company, paying therefor about 1,600,000\$. During the year it produced gold and silver to the value of 673,540\$, the tonnage being far above that of any previous year. While the increase in the production of the company amounts to more than 63,000\$, it will be remembered that the old company operated its big mill many months during 1910, and part of its production during that year coming from the tailings pits.

The company is just now putting the property in the best possible shape for a large output of bullion during the year 1912, and it is possible that the production will reach more than 2,000,000\$. The company is to make the No. 2 shaft on the Billy Bryan the main working shaft and from that point the big mine will be opened to great depth. While the old shaft will not be entirely abandoned it is expected that it will only be used to cut out the ore to the 800 level, at which the shaft now stands. It is apparent that the best part of the mine lies in and along the ground covered by the Line Road and Billy Bryan locations and it is this part of the ground that is to receive the best attention of the company. At the present time the shaft is 700 feet and the drift extends to the old shaft 2200 feet to the west, and also is in the neighborhood of the Railroad claim on the east. Throughout the length of this drift, which approximates 4500 feet in length, the ore body is apparently unbroken. Throughout the Billy Bryan the ore has a better and more uniform value than that in the old workings. It is estimated that more than fifteen years' ore is now in sight in the property, even with double the capacity of the present milling plant.

Showing the confidence the new corporation has in the future of the mine a great milling plant has already been planned by the directors of the company, doubling the present capacity of the mill. Already eight cars of lumber and timber for this plant have arrived in the Kingman yards and will be hauled at once to the camp. Lovin & Withers company, having the contract for this haulage, have been notified to put on all the teams that can be obtained to get the material on the ground with as little delay as possible. Every team possible is being pressed into service and it is expected that all the timber and machinery will be on the ground by the first day of March. The betterments to the mill will greatly add to the capacity of the plant, the agitators during away with the present method of airating the mass artificially. It is understood that another tube mill will be put in to handle the surplus from the strmps, which will result in sending greater tonnage to the agitators. Following this will come the big aerial tram that will convey the ores from the Billie Bryan shaft to the mill, a distance of about three-fourth mile. The building of the tram will lay the ores in the mill at a cost of not to exceed ten cents a ton and materially reduce the costs

from the mining end. It is also considered that the costs of mining and milling will be reduced far below the present cost, which is above 4\$ per ton. The great ore bodies throughout the 700 level, running in width from 8 to 28 feet, will be broken by machine drills and everything in and about the mine and mill made as automatic as possible. The management of the property is under the best men that can be obtained in the mining world and they are sure to make the mine one of the foremost gold producers of America.

#### The Tom Reed.

The Tom Reed mine was among the biggest of the gold producers of the county during 1911, the mine sending to the mill 31,725 tons of ore of a value of approximately 25\$ per ton. The total bullion extracted was 747,680\$, the percentage of extraction being above 90 per cent. The mine has been opened to the 600 and the ore body shows great width and uniform value throughout that level. The company has done much active development on the property during the year and has big ore reserves. Owing to the lack of an adequate water supply during part of the year it was found impossible to operate part of the thirty stamps of the mill, but now sufficient water is obtainable and the company will be in position to handle a greater tonnage of ore and possibly extract some of the lower grades in the upper levels of the property. It is a well known fact that on the 240 level the mine has ore bodies sixteen feet in width that will average above 14\$, but this has been left practically intact owing to the fact that the milling facilities at the time that the work was being carried on in that part of the mine was very limited. Later when the new mill was put in commission the water supply precluded the handling of the lower grade ore bodies, the high grade furnishing the necessary quantity.

Since the mine came under the control of the Tom Reed Gold Mines company S. S. Jones has been in the active management of the mine and mill and Charles Grimes has been president and acting director of the company at the property. These two men have practically made the mine what it is today, bringing it from a non producer to one of the great gold mines of the world. B. L. Lunceford has been one of Mr. Jones' able lieutenants in the mill and has made many improvements in the cyanidation of the ores. At a later date we will go more fully into the history and workings of this property.

During the year the Tom Reed sunk the main shaft to a depth of 800 feet, at which depth it now stands. Another shaft has been sunk to a depth of 730 feet. The mine shows 1409 feet of drifts, 240 feet of crosscuts, 217 feet of winzes, 510 feet of raises. From the 730 level the showing of ore is exceptionally good.

#### Golconda Mines.

While the past year has been one of exploitation rather than production the Golconda mine has been covering all betterments with its output. The property is one of the greatest of the zinc mines of the southwest, having the most ideal of all western zinc ores. The betterments at the mine during the year has been the completion of the new mill, the building of a long tram from the mill to the level country west of the mine, and the driving of an adit drift through the Prosperity vein to a point some hundreds of feet below the present Golconda shaft level. The driving of this drift has taken both time and money, but it was found to be a necessity for the unwatering of the lower workings of the mine, which some time ago were flooded when a large volume of water was encountered in driving the drifts on the 335 level.

The mine during the year outpitted raw ore and concentrates to the total tonnage of 6758 tons, which was shipped to the zinc smelter at Chickasha, Oklahoma, returning 4,538,000 pounds of zinc. This ore carries values in

gold and silver and the return from the smelters was 116,132\$, somewhat below the returns for the year 1910.

The main shaft of the mine, having been unwatered by the near approach of the adit drift, has been sunk 80 feet below the level to a depth of 415 feet, and drifts are now being carried off on the vein. The shaft was sunk in solid shipping ore. To show the quality of the ore we refer to the fact that last week 23 tons of fifty per cent zinc ore was broken in the shaft and sent to the surface in one day.

The drifts are now being run on this heavy zinc ore, not one pound of waste coming from the openings. It is expected that the same quality of ore will be opened that the drifts above show, where the body of zinc in places opens out to a width of eleven feet.

The mines are the most remarkable in the territory, and for that matter, probably the greatest ever discovered in the United States. They comprise a group that show massive ore bodies wherever opened. In driving the Prosperity drift an almost unbroken ore body was found throughout its entire length, much of it being very high grade zinc. The Tub mine, lying below the Golconda, is another of the great zinc bodies, the vein being the largest of the group. Combining all the properties there is enough ore in sight at the present time to make the property a producer for years to come. At the present time the mines are in position to make an immense production for the year 1912 and it appears to be the intention of the management to make this a record year. The big mill is capable of treating the lower grades of ore at a profit, and together with the great bodies of clean ore the railroad to Kingman ought to be kept busy hauling the product for shipment to the smelters.

John Boyle, Jr., took over the property when it was a mere prospect, has made this mine one of the greatest in the territory, giving it a value at the present time of more than 2,000,000\$.

#### The Banner Mines.

The Banner group of mines, at Stockton Hill has received many betterments during the year, notably that of an aerial tramway from the mines to the foot of the hill, a distance of more than two miles, where the ores are delivered into the big bins. From this point the ores are either hauled to the railroad at Berry siding or to Kingman. Shipments have been made from the mines only part of the year, the tonnage being approximately 4,500 tons of ore carrying gold, silver and lead to the value of about 40\$, and giving a total value of about 180,000\$. The mine has been under the management of Supt. Hoffman since it was taken over by the corporation. D. R. Muir, is the manager of the company, which is another of the U. S. S., R. & M. company's auxiliaries. It has a smelting plant at Needles and a big concentrating plant, at which all the ores from the mines is treated. The mines have been opened to a depth of 600 feet and the ore showing is said to be good. The body on the adit level is reported to be more than 2000 feet in length, and while small in places, is of good workable width practically the whole distance. The mine is capable of producing a daily tonnage of about 40 tons.

With the New Year the mine will undoubtedly begin the shipment of a larger tonnage and better grade of ore.

The same company also shipped several thousand tons of ore of a splendid grade from the Champion mine, near Cerbat. The ores of the Champion were high in gold, silver and lead, the lead running better than 35 per cent. No work is now being done on this property, the company concentrating its energies on the Tennessee and Banner mines.

#### The Tennessee.

The Tennessee mine, at Chloride, is also owned by the Needles Mining & Smelting company. It now has a shaft on the property at a depth of 700 feet, at which point all exploration is being

carried on. It is on this level that the big ore body is reported to have been opened and from which it is probable large future shipments will be made. The company is also cutting toward the Great Lead, a parallel vein to that of the Tennessee, and from which it is expected great ore bodies will be taken. The mine has been producing only a short time, although some ore has been shipped from the old tailings pits and from the dumps. During the past two months regular shipments have been made from the mine, the monthly average being about fourteen cars of 40 tons each. This ore is high in lead and carries gold and silver. It is estimated that the values will run about 35\$ to the ton, making it a most desirable smelting ore.

#### The Grand Gulch.

During 1910 the Grand Gulch mine produced 4,500 pounds of copper, also some gold and silver, but the year 1911 showed a wonderful increase in the tonnage on account of the fact that the haulage of the ores could be made to Moapa, instead of the long haul to the railroad northwest of St. George. The company has been piling up its ore at St. Thomas, awaiting the completion of the branch line to that place, which has reduced the haulage to 40 miles. During the year the production of copper is estimated at 10,000 pounds, valued at 123,000\$ and 3,500\$ in gold and silver, a total of about 126,500\$. The company also carried on a great deal of development and many betterments were made at the mine. The property is situated in this county, north of the Colorado river, and is owned in Salt Lake.

#### Miscellaneous Production.

Aside from the production of gold and silver by the Tom Reed and Gold Road the production of the metals by the other mines shows an exceptionally good increase. The Ruth, Cyclopic, Frisco Mines & Power, the placers and many small mines will have made a production that will total fully 100,000\$. The Frisco Mines & Power company in the latter days of the year became regular bullion producer, the last bar from that mill being valued at 5.5 0\$, and the month of December showing a production of better than 12,000\$. The Ruth has been a regular shipper of bullion for some months and gives promise of being among the big things of the San Francisco district. Many of the small mines have either produced by arrastra or by the shipment of ores to the outside plants. Quite a large number of mines have made production in this way, some shipping as high as 200 tons of very good ore. The estimate of 100,000\$ from this source from the information at hand is very conservative.

#### Recapitulation.

Gold Road.....	\$ 675,540
Tom Reed.....	787,031
Golconda.....	116,000
Needles M. & S. Co. approx.....	250,000
Banner and Tennessee	
Adams lode.....	126,500
gold, silver and copper	
Other sources.....	100,000
Ruth, Frisco, placers, etc. ....	
	2,052,071

Compared with a production from all sources last year of 1,156,279\$, a gain of approximately 900,000\$.

While the increase shows a healthy condition of mining it is small compared with the predicted increase during the year 1912. With the extension of the Frisco mill, the increased production of the Banner and Tennessee, the enlargement of the Gold Road mill, the increased production of the Ruth and the opening of many other mines, the year 1912 promises to be the banner for the county.

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## Copper Basin Is

### Coming To Front.

W. L. Roberts, of Skull Valley, while in the city yesterday stated that in Copper Basin the striking of fabulously rich copper ore by the Commercial Mining company, was the general talk, and in order to ascertain what was going on, visited the works. He verifies the reports and stated that the possibilities of the property cannot easily be over estimated. The point where the high grade ore has been found is located in a winze sunk from the main tunnel, and which had reached a depth of thirty feet, carrying a continuous body of red oxide of copper that gave values as high as 70 per cent.

The ore body extends across the winze and until determinations are made the extent of the deposit cannot be ascertained. The winze is still being driven, and as yet there is no indication of a break in the ore. At other points in the long tunnel Mr. Roberts stated that large bodies of a good grade of copper ore have been cut into, while the crosscuts have demonstrated similar conditions to be in evidence.

While but little publicity has been given of the operations of the Commercial people in recent months, news of the strikes made since tunnel work was started a few months ago, has reached the outside, and from those conversant with the development and the strike made a short time ago, it is learned that the conditions in that camp are regarded by miners as without a parallel in the history of copper mining in the territory.

It is also reported that on account of the developments of recent months, several of the leading stockholders residing in New York City will visit the camp early in the coming year, and it is believed that the necessary machinery will be authorized to develop to great depth.

The main shaft located at another point on the group reached a depth of nearly 500 feet, when a temporary suspension was ordered, before crosscutting was done.

Major A. J. Pickrell is in charge of the Commercial company's interests in Northern Arizona, which is a subsidiary organization of Phelps, Dodge & Co., operating the Copper Queen in the south.—Prescott Journal-Miner.

## The Nevada Consolidated Copper Co.

The Nevada Consolidated Copper Co. at Ely in a report just issued covering operations for thirteen months ending November 1, 1911, shows net earnings of 2,293,758\$, says the White Pine News. Dividends received during this period amounted to 1,337,899\$, and the dividends accrued, but not received, totalled 58,533\$.

The company has paid its fourth quarterly dividend during the year amounting to 747,940\$, which brings its total dividends since it reached the profit disbursement period to 6,279,931\$. The current year's dividends of the Nevada Consolidated amount to almost one-half as much as the combined dividends of all the copper companies in Michigan. Were it not for the fact that the Nevada Consolidated was short of water for the entire year the dividends would have been much higher, and the company would have disbursed at least an additional half million dollars.

With the starting of the big Nordbery pump at McGill, the Steptoe Smelting Co. will be in a position to operate the eighth section of the concentrator without encountering obstacles. The water problem will no longer cause the officials any concern, as the new pumping plant is ready for operation.—Searchlight Bulletin.

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